

messages within the message data table to correspondent records within the correspondent data table,

wherein message-correspondent relationship records within the message-correspondent relationship data table include message identification fields which relate to message records stored within the message data table, and wherein message-correspondent relationship records within the message-correspondent relationship data table further include correspondent identification fields which relate to correspondent records within the correspondent data table;

and wherein the message data table stores only a single message record of each of the sent and/or received e-mail messages regardless of plurality of correspondents in the e-mail messages, and the single message record is automatically linked to the plurality of correspondents using the message-correspondent relationship records.

2653. (Amended) A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium which is used in a system for the correspondent-centric management of e-mail messages which are sent and/or received by users of the system, said program comprising:

a) a code segment that parses information from a sent and/or received e-mail message;

b) a code segment that stores portions of the sent and/or received e-mail messages as message records within a message data table;

c) a code segment that stores correspondent information from the sent and/or received e-mail message within correspondent records which include information related to correspondents of users of the system; and,

d) a code segment that stores message-correspondent relationship records which link portions of sent and/or received e-mail messages within the message data table to correspondent records within the correspondent data table,

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wherein the message-correspondent relationship records within the message-correspondent relationship data table include message identification fields which relate to portions of sent and/or received e-mail messages stored within the message data table, and wherein message-correspondent relationship records within the message-correspondent relationship data table further include correspondent identification fields which relate to correspondent records within the correspondent data table;

and wherein the message data table stores only a single message record of each of the sent and/or received e-mail messages regardless of plurality of correspondents in the e-mail messages, and the single message record is automatically linked to the plurality of correspondents using the message-correspondent relationship records.

Insert the following new claims 55-85:

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55. (New) The system of claim 37, wherein sent and/or received e-mail messages are parsed.

56. (New) The system of claim 37, wherein information from the correspondent data table may be used to generate a user's correspondence history with a selected correspondent.

⁸
~~57~~. (New) The system of claim ~~39~~³, wherein the correspondent data table permits a correspondent to be linked to more than one e-mail address.

^{sub}
²²
58. (New) The system of claim 57, wherein the system may automatically link all messages to and from a given correspondent.

²⁰
~~59~~. (New) The system of claim ~~55~~¹⁹, wherein properties of parsed e-mail messages are used to create new information.

²⁰
~~60~~. (New) The system of claim ~~59~~²⁰, wherein the new information is stored in a data table.

²²
~~61~~. (New) The system of claim ~~59~~²⁰, wherein the new information is the number of messages between a user and a correspondent stored in a data table.

²³
~~62~~. (New) The system of claim ~~55~~¹⁹, wherein message parsing makes it easier for the system to handle logic decisions when searching for a field than if the system was required to re-scan the message every time.

²⁸
~~63~~. (New) The computer program of claim ~~53~~²⁶, wherein the program further comprises a code segment that creates an e-mail box data table for the storage of e-mail box records, said e-mail box records including at least an e-mail box identification field.

²⁹
~~64~~. (New) The computer program of claim ~~63~~²⁸, wherein correspondent records and message-correspondent relationship records include e-mail box identification fields which are also located within e-mail box records in the e-mail box data table, thus permitting the use of multiple e-mail boxes within the system.

³⁰
~~65~~. (New) The computer program of claim ~~64~~²⁹, wherein the program further comprises a code segment creating a user data table for the storage of user records which

each provide information about an e-mail user, said user records including at least a user identification field.

³¹/~~66~~. (New) The computer program of claim ³⁰/~~65~~, wherein e-mail box records, correspondent records and message-correspondent relationship records include user identification fields which are also located within user records in the user data table, thus permitting the use of the system by a plurality of e-mail users.

³²/~~67~~. (New) The computer program of claim ³¹/~~66~~, wherein the message records include message bodies from said sent and/or received e-mail messages.

³³/~~68~~. (New) The computer program of claim ³²/~~67~~, wherein the program further comprises a code segment which creates the system further comprises a topic data table and a message-topic relationship data table for the purpose of enabling the organization of e-mail messages under one or more topics without requiring the storage of more than one copy of a message body for each e-mail message within the system.

³⁰/~~69~~. (New) The computer program of claim ²⁶/~~53~~, wherein the program further includes for the purposes of positive spam filtering a code segment that compares parsed correspondent identification information to correspondent identification information contained in correspondent records located within the correspondent data table.

³¹/~~70~~. (New) The computer program of claim ³⁰/~~69~~, wherein the program further includes a code segment that prompts an e-mail user to store or delete at least a portion of the received e-mail message if the parsed correspondent identification information does not match correspondent identification information contained within the correspondent data table.

³⁸
~~71~~. (New)

The computer program of claim ~~70~~³⁷, wherein the program further includes a code segment that, if the e-mail user chooses to store at least a portion of the received e-mail message, stores correspondent identification information parsed from the received e-mail message within a correspondent record in the correspondent data table, stores at least a portion of the received e-mail message in the message data table, and creates a record within the message-correspondent relationship data table to link the correspondent record with the at least a portion of the received e-mail message stored within the message data table.

³⁹
~~72~~. (New)

The computer program of claim ~~71~~³⁸, wherein the program further includes a code segment that prompts the user to confirm and/or revise correspondent information before storing such information within a correspondent record in the correspondent data table.

⁴⁰
~~73~~. (New)

The computer program of claim ~~53~~²⁶, wherein the program further includes a code segment that provides for efficient storage of e-mail messages by comparing a portion of a sent and/or received e-mail message which is intended to be stored to previously stored portions of sent and/or received messages stored within the message data table, and if a newly sent and/or received message portion matches a previously stored portion, instead of storing the portion of the sent and/or received e-mail message intended to be stored, creating a link to said previously stored portion by creating a message-correspondent relationship record within the message-correspondent relationship data table.

⁴¹
~~74~~. (New)

The computer program of claim ~~73~~⁴⁰, wherein the portion of a sent and/or received e-mail message is an attachment to the e-mail.

⁴²
~~75~~. (New) The computer program of claim ~~53~~²⁶, wherein the program is intended to be installed onto an e-mail user's client computer.

⁴³
~~76~~. (New) The computer program of claim ~~53~~²⁶, wherein the program is intended to be installed on a server computer for use by a plurality of e-mail users via a plurality of client computers.

⁴⁴
~~77~~. (New) The computer program of claim ~~53~~²⁶, wherein the program further includes a code segment that uses information from the correspondent data table to generate a user's correspondence history with a selected correspondent.

³⁴
~~78~~. (New) The computer program of claim ~~64~~²⁹, wherein the program further includes a code segment that uses the correspondent data table to link a correspondent to more than one e-mail address.

³⁵
~~79~~. (New) The computer program of claim ~~78~~³⁴, wherein the program further includes a code segment which automatically links all messages to and from a given correspondent.

⁴⁵
~~80~~. (New) The computer program of claim ~~53~~²⁶, wherein the program further includes a code segment that uses properties of parsed e-mail messages to create new information.

⁴⁶
~~81~~. (New) The computer program of claim ~~80~~⁴⁵, wherein the program further includes a code segment that stores the new information in a data table.

⁴⁷
~~82~~. (New) The computer program of claim ~~80~~⁴⁵, wherein the new information is the number of messages between a user and a correspondent stored in a data table.

⁴⁸
~~83~~. (New) The computer program of claim ~~53~~²⁶, wherein message parsing

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makes it easier for the computer program to handle logic decisions when searching for a field than if the program was required to re-scan the message every time.

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⁴⁹
~~84~~. (New) The computer program of claim ⁴⁸~~83~~, wherein the searched for field is an attachment, a correspondent, or a message date.

²⁴
~~85~~. (New) The system of claim ²³~~82~~, wherein the searched for field is an attachment, a correspondent, or a message date.

REMARKS

1. Claims 17-18 are cancelled, without prejudice, for prosecution within a continuation or continuation-in-part application.
2. Applicants thank the examiner for the assistance given within the telephonic interview of 2/19/03. At the examiner's suggestion, the clarifying clause "and wherein the message data table stores only a single message record of each of the sent and/or received e-mail messages regardless of plurality of correspondents in the e-mail messages, and the single message record is automatically linked to the plurality of correspondents using the message-correspondent relationship records" has been added to independent claims 37 and 53 to better define the functionality of the instant invention, and to place those claims in condition for allowance. The examiner pointed to page 35 , lines 5-15, as giving basis to the amendment. As stated in that section, the need for the instant system and program to store only a single copy of a message is an improvement over prior art systems and programs which are required to store at least one instance of a message somewhere for every party to a message.